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NO. 19

SEES GREAT FUTURE FOR DRY LAND FARMS

F. G. LUCAS OF WESTON, IN UMATILLA COUNTY, BELIEVES EXPERIENCE OF THAT COUNTY WILL BE DUPLICATED HERE

HARNEY VALLEY READY NOW

With So Many Fertile Acres Waiting Development It Is Productive Suicide for Government to Wait, He Says.

That the hill lands of the Malheur valley will in ten years be known as a good dry farming region is the belief of F. G. Lucas of Weston, who was in Ontario Wednesday on business.

"Years ago," said Mr. Lucas, "the rainfall of Umatilla county was only 7 inches per annum. No one thought the high lands could be farmed. Gradually settlers made the attempt, with the increase in plowed acreage under summer fallow method the land demonstrated its productivity and the conservation of the moisture drew additional rainfall until now the average rainfall is 16 inches. And it must be remembered that we raised good crops when the rainfall was only 10 inches, less than you have here on Dead Ox Flat.

"Even tho the people are not prepared to go on the dry lands of the Malheur valley, the Harney valley is ready for settlers now. It is productive suicide for the government to delay development of that region. In ten years from now the Harney valley will be one of the most productive valleys in the state. I have just finished a trip thru there and have been astonished at what I found. It is the biggest undeveloped valley in the state. I have juagrophical emcee the state. Its land is rich, water may be had easily and cheaply. Dry land farmers have plenty of moisture and are doing well now, they will do better. The thousands of acres there awaiting development could go far to lessen the present food shortage."

Mr. Lucas this week brought two new ranchers into this section, Fred Butterworth of Portland and E. A. Dudley of Athens. Both of these men have purchased substantial holdings near Crane. Mr. Lucas expects to bring a number of other ranchers from the Umatilla region into Malheur and Harney valleys later in the season when the rush of farm work is over.

ALLEGED ASSAULT IS DISMISSED BY JUSTICE

Fishing Without License Gets Four Into Trouble for Which Three Drew Quarter Century Fines.

Justice of the Peace G. L. King was a busy man during the first of the week. Monday he had before him four men arrested by Game Warden H. L. Gray for fishing without a license, they were Ellis and Lawrence Andrews, J. F. Smith and A. R. Cordell, each of these save Lawrence Andrews paid \$25 for the experience.

On Tuesday on a charge filed by Night Marshal William Allison Harvey Test appeared before the judge charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. Allison charged that Test on Saturday evening in a local pool hall waved a butcher knife at him and defied the officer to arrest him. The provoked the officer did not then make the arrest but Test was taken on Sunday and Sunday night was released on bonds. On Tuesday at a hearing held before Judge King the Judge held that there was not sufficient evidence to hold Test to the Grand Jury.

R. W. Jones leaves this week for Boise and Twin Falls in one of the new Grants which arrived this week at the Ontario Auto company. Three car loads of these machines arrived this week.



Photo by American Press Association. Brigadier General Hunter Liggett.

Who arrived in San Francisco this week to take charge of the Department of the Pacific and prepare it for war.

ONTARIANS TO HEAR BOND BILL DEBATED

Senator Julien A. Hurley and Senator Walter M. Pierce Will Argue Merits of Proposed Measure Saturday, May 26.

A joint debate between Senator Julien A. Hurley of Vale, champion of the proposed road bonding bill, and Senator Walter M. Pierce of Union county, opponent of the measure, will be staged in Ontario Saturday, May 26. These speakers will also appear at Vale and Nyssa, arrangements for all of the meetings are being made now.

The contest between the champions of the measure was arranged this week by Horace Addis, of the Oregon Farmer, who was in Ontario Wednesday and Thursday. Senator Hurley accepted the challenge when he was told that Pierce would be here and declared that he would be glad to meet Pierce or any other opponent of the measure.

Senator Hurley has just returned from a speaking tour thru the John Day valley and declares that the people of that section are unanimous for the measure.

TWELVE NEW MEMBERS ADDED TO DIRECTORS

Local Red Cross Society Plans Opening of Downtown Headquarters—Mrs. Mount Visits Auxiliary.

Mrs. O. B. Mount, secretary of the Baker Chapter of the Red Cross society of which the Ontario organization is an auxiliary was in Ontario Monday of this week to consult with the local members. In the afternoon she attended a meeting of the board of directors and in the evening addressed a meeting of the membership.

At the afternoon meeting announcement was made of the addition of the following to the board of directors: A. F. Riddle, G. K. Alken, L. Adam, W. E. Lees, W. W. Wood, Mrs. Frank Rader, Mrs. J. D. Billingsley, Mrs. Ray Wilson, Mrs. C. U. Stover, Mrs. I. Troxell, Wm Laxon, A. E. Fraser.

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DRAINAGE CONSTRUCTION BIDS HIGHER THAN EXPECTED

On the opening of bids for the construction of the Ontario Drainage canals today the directors found that

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ONTARIO'S GENEROSITY IS SOUGHT FOR RELIEF WORK

Local Red Cross Society Hampered Because of Lack of Funds With Which to Equip Work Room Downtown.

CAN'T SOLICIT FOR FUNDS

BELGIAN CHILDREN'S RELIEF AND ARMY Y. M. C. A. MAKE STRONG APPEALS TO THE GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE.

Three worthy movements for the relief of war conditions are making an appeal to the generosity of Ontario citizens these days. Each of them is important. Each must be heeded or Ontario will not be carrying its share of the world's burden, nor be worthy of its best traditions. These three movements are the American Red Cross; the United States Army Y. M. C. A. and the Relief for Belgian children. The first ministers to the wounded and the dying on the fields of battle, as well as ministering to the comforts of the men on the field.

The second helps make more comfortable the life of the man in the ranks, spiritually, mentally, morally, physically.

The third is working to save the lives of thousands of poor, starving little Belgian.

RED CROSS CANNOT SOLICIT FUNDS

The first institution, the Red Cross, must do more than furnish money. It must furnish bandages, night robes, material for sick rooms and an untold number of other things for the benefit of the soldiers. These must be made. The women of Ontario must do their share. They must be made according to specifications, and that means that there must be a downtown work room where the work can be done. Materials must be secured, instruction provided for and a multitude of other matters arranged for at once. All of this requires money.

And where is this money to come from? The regulations of the Red Cross provide that funds can not be solicited. The workers are hampered. Ontario women want to work, but they have nothing to work with. Ontario citizens who have the means, Ontario business men who can afford to do so, should come forward now to the relief of the association here. It will require in the neighborhood of \$150 to get the work under way. When the men and women here who have the means, realize the position of the local branch those in charge feel certain the money will be forthcoming.

HELP THE STARVING BELGIANS

The whole world has felt the appeal of the poor little Belgian children. Oregon citizens have assured the National relief commission that Oregon will provide \$1 per month for each of the 2800 children in Brabant. A few, a very few, Ontarians have taken an interest in this work. One check for \$50 has gone forward from this city to aid the cause. An appeal will be made to as many as can give monthly a small sum toward saving the lives of the little Belgians. You who read this, do you not believe that you can spare a few cents each week from the ordinary pleasures, or from your surplus of this world's goods, to contribute toward the saving of the life of some Belgian? Cannot Ontario say to the Oregon committee, "Ontario will save the lives of 100 little Belgians during the coming year?"

THE ARMY Y. M. C. A.

A strong local committee representing the Army Y. M. C. A. is canvassing the city for regular contributions toward this work, the nature of which is to furnish recreation headquarters with every army corp where the men can get a touch of physical, mental and spiritual rest and moral uplift. While on the Mexican border last fall army officers strongly approved of the Army Y. M. C. A., while thousands of private soldiers were unstinted in their praise of the work done by the association.

That Ontario will do its share to support each of these institutions goes without saying. Despite many untoward conditions Ontario and its citizens have prospered during the past year and are prosperous now. The generous spirit is not lacking, and the committees which have these three campaigns in charge feel that all that will be needed is that the attention of Ontario and Malheur county citizens be called to them. At either of the banks you will find the cashiers ready to accept and receipt for funds for these causes: At the First National H. B. Cockrum is treasurer of the Red Cross; at the Ontario National W. F. Homan is treasurer of the Army Y. M. C. A. committee and both will act for the Belgian relief.



Photo by American Press Association. Major General George W. Goethals.

Who has been given the task of supervising the greatest ship building order in the history of mankind. LIGGETT

CONSERVATION BODY FORMED FOR ONTARIO

Representatives of All Civic Organizations Meet at City Hall Last Friday and Perfect Organization.

At a meeting at the city hall last Friday a Conservation commission for Ontario was formed by District Leader E. B. Conklin. A. F. Riddle was elected chairman and Mrs. W. W. Howard vice chairman.

This organization will undertake to unify the efforts of all bodies whose object is to increase the food supply as well as to conserve the efforts of citizens and the supply of food products. A survey of the field will be undertaken to demonstrate the amount of food annually shipped into Ontario which might better be raised here.

A similar organization has been formed at Vale and at Nyssa and the work will be under way here in a few days.

PLENTY OF CARS FOR COAL REQUIREMENTS

General Agent Joel Priest of O. S. L. Visits Ontario Enroute for Burns—Crops Looking Fine in Idaho.

There will be no shortage of coal in this section. This is the statement made by General Agent Joel Priest of the O. S. L. who was in Ontario this morning enroute for Burns.

"We are delivering 40 cars daily to the D. & R. G. for coal for Idaho and Eastern Oregon," said Mr. Priest. "This will be sufficient to supply the needs of the territory. The people do not need to worry the coal situation will be cared for."

"Right now the crop situation is better than it has been in years. The fruit crop of Idaho will be the largest in its history. We are looking for the biggest year in business ever recorded. The company has recently purchased a large number of new locomotives to care for the increased tonnage which the road will be called upon to move."

WARMSPRINGS BONDS FIND NO BIDDER WHEN OFFERED

When the board of directors of the Warm Springs Irrigation district met Tuesday at Vale to open bids for the

GRADUATES CENTER OF WEEK'S DOINGS

CLASS PLAY, CLASS DAY EXERCISES, ELECTION OF CADET OFFICERS, WEEK BUSY ONE FOR SCHOOL.

TOMORROW GRADUATION DAY

Juniors Give Reception—Nut Club Says Farewell and Alumni Will Greet New Comers—All in One Week.

This is commencement week at the Ontario High school. It is the busiest week in the history of the school. The program started off Sunday evening with the baccalaureate sermon delivered by Rev. Herbert Livingston at the High School auditorium.

Tuesday the Junior class tendered the graduates a reception dance at the Wilson hall and on Wednesday the afternoon was given over to class day exercises and the election of officers for the cadet corps. Claude Christensen was elected captain; Bernard Rader was elected, first lieutenant, and Edmund S. Fraser was elected second lieutenant. The commissioned officers will select the non coms today.

Wednesday evening the class play entertained a large audience at Dream land while this evening the Nut club will be the hosts at the Graduation ball at the Wilson hall. Tomorrow is Commencement Day. The exercises will take place at the High School auditorium in the evening. At that time the principal address will be delivered by Dr. Norman F. Coleman of Reed College, Portland. Supt. E. G. Bailey will present the class of 1917 with 37 members to the school board for diplomas which will be awarded by President Frank Rader of the Board.

Saturday evening the alumni association will give a dance to the new class to be enrolled in that body.

COUNTY ROADS FACE SERIOUS PROBLEMS

Shortage of Labor May Require the Ranchers to Do Work It Highways are to Be Kept in Condition

County Commissioner J. F. Weaver arrived in town this noon to attend a meeting of the directors of the Ontario Drainage district following an extended trip over the county looking into the road situation.

"Generally speaking the roads of the county are in pretty bad condition," said Commissioner Weaver. "There have been a number of washouts near Juntura and on the Red Butte road but the county is going to have a hard time to get them repaired owing to the inability to get men to work on the roads at the wages the county pays."

"Yesterday a delegation of 40 ranchers from the Ironside country interviewed the county court seeking relief from the bad roads. They volunteered to do the work themselves at the county's scale of wages and asked authority to proceed. This perhaps is the only solution of the problem and other ranchers throughout the county may have to follow this plan if they are to get their roads repaired."

sale of the bonds of the district there were no offers made. On the following day the board met to receive bids for the erection of the dam at the reservoir site. Only one bid, that of the Warren Construction company of Portland, was received. This bid named \$318,000 as the sum required for the building of the dam provided that the directors purchased the site. In view of the fact that there had been no offer for the bonds the district had no money and therefore could not accept the bid for the erection of the dam.

W. P. Davison of St. Paul and Col. C. E. S. Wood of Portland will go to Washington this month to seek government aid for the project.